

The Watchman and Southron.

THE SOUTHERN WATCHMAN, Established April, 1860.

"Be Just and Fear not—Let all the Ends thou Aims't at, be thy Country's, thy God's, and Truth's."

THE TRUE SOUTHERN, Established June 1874

Consolidated Aug. 2, 1881.

SUMTER, S. C., WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1900.

New Series—Vol. XX. No. 12

The Watchman and Southron.

Published Every Wednesday,

N. G. Osteen,

SUMTER, S. C.

TERMS:

\$1.50 per annum—in advance.

ADVERTISING:

One square first insertion.....\$1.00

Second insertion......50

Continued for three months, or longer will be made at reduced rates.

All communications which involve private property will be charged for as advertisements. Confidential and telegraphic reports will be charged for.

PLAIN STATEMENT

TO THE PEOPLE.

Constitutional Amendment

That is to Be Voted On.

From The State, Oct 10th.

Below is the text of the constitutional amendment adopted at the city council meeting last night which is to be sent to the voters of the city of Columbia for their consideration. It is a matter of the greatest importance to the people of Columbia and several other cities in the State:

City Council Chamber,

Columbia, S. C., Oct 9, 1900.

To the Editor of—

Dear Sir: The constitutional convention of 1895 was composed of an extraordinary body of men as ever assembled in the State capital. Brains, progress and profound deliberation marked the consideration of each subject as it arose. The debates arising upon the various provisions adopted by that august body will go down in history as a record of wisdom and foresight. To none of the provisions of the constitution then adopted can more just endorsement be given than to the proposed amendment of section 7 of Article VIII qualifying the limitation as to municipal bonded indebtedness as contained in section 5 of Article IV, thereof. To many of the people of the State this proposed amendment is novel, and as it is here inserted for the purpose of informing the public generally, and of encouraging (particularly on the part of the members of the general assembly) a discussion of its merits in the county papers throughout South Carolina, to the end that it can be intelligently voted upon in the ensuing general election.

The proposed amendment is as follows: Add to the end of Section 7, Article VIII this proviso: "Provided that the limitation imposed by this section and Section 5, Article IV, of this constitution shall not apply to bonded indebtedness incurred by the cities of Columbia, Rock Hill, Charleston and Florence, where the proceeds of said bonds are applied solely for the purchase, establishment, maintenance or increase of water works plants, sewerage systems, gas and electric light plants (where the entire revenue arising from the operation of such plants or systems shall be devoted solely and exclusively to the maintenance and operation of the same; and where the question of incuring such indebtedness is submitted to the freeholders and qualified voters of such municipality, as provided in the constitution upon the question of other bonded indebtedness."

This proposed amendment to the constitution is of vital importance to the city of Columbia whose population comes from almost every county in the State. Growing with a rapidity that is without a parallel in the statistics of this State, her teeming streets and busy marts are the wonder and admiration of all. The State at large shares with her citizens in the pride engendered by the growth and promise of the capital of South Carolina. There are but two things vitally essential to the encouragement and fostering of this wonderful growth—a sewerage system and a waterworks plant which together, it is estimated, will cost our municipality a half million of dollars.

To raise that sum, so necessary to the well being of all the people, we must appeal to the intelligent voters of this entire State to vote solidly for this proposed amendment, for the reason that Columbia is already encumbered with a debt far in excess of the constitutional debt-limit. Hence upon failure to carry the proposed amendment at the polls, our only recourse to preserve and foster the magnificent onward march of our city will be to place these systems in the hands of private parties, and that course is condemned by every economic authority, based upon the closest study of results.

If the people of the state drive us to this alternative, we must accept it even at the risk of its becoming disastrous to our well-being and advancement; for Columbia cannot keep pace with her growth and the increased density of her population, so as to properly guard her health and comfort, without the building and development of these systems.

Very respectfully,

N. G. Osteen,

City Clerk.

Enclosed for the editor of the Watchman and Southron is a copy of the proposed amendment.

Very respectfully,

N. G. Osteen,

City Clerk.

Enclosed for the editor of the Watchman and Southron is a copy of the proposed amendment.

Very respectfully,

N. G. Osteen,

City Clerk.

Enclosed for the editor of the Watchman and Southron is a copy of the proposed amendment.

Very respectfully,

N. G. Osteen,

City Clerk.

Enclosed for the editor of the Watchman and Southron is a copy of the proposed amendment.

Very respectfully,

N. G. Osteen,

City Clerk.

Enclosed for the editor of the Watchman and Southron is a copy of the proposed amendment.

Very respectfully,

N. G. Osteen,

City Clerk.

Enclosed for the editor of the Watchman and Southron is a copy of the proposed amendment.

Very respectfully,

N. G. Osteen,

City Clerk.

Enclosed for the editor of the Watchman and Southron is a copy of the proposed amendment.

Very respectfully,

N. G. Osteen,

City Clerk.

Enclosed for the editor of the Watchman and Southron is a copy of the proposed amendment.

Very respectfully,

N. G. Osteen,

City Clerk.

Enclosed for the editor of the Watchman and Southron is a copy of the proposed amendment.

Very respectfully,

N. G. Osteen,

City Clerk.

Enclosed for the editor of the Watchman and Southron is a copy of the proposed amendment.

Very respectfully,

N. G. Osteen,

City Clerk.

NEWS FROM CHINA.

Will Hardly Be Complicated With.

Washington, Oct 9.—The Chinese minister said today that if the powers regarded it as essential that the emperor and empress dowager should return to Peking, he was quite confident this could be brought about, first by giving positive assurances for the personal safety of their majesties, and then, as plain evidence of this assurance, directing that the bulk of the allied forces now at Peking be withdrawn to Tien Tsin, Yangtun, or some other point, leaving only a few hundred troops at Peking as a guard.

THE DOWAGER EMPRESS ILL.

Peking, Sunday, Oct 7, via Tien Tsin, Oct 8, and Shanghai, Oct 9.—Trustworthy Chinese reports say that the dowager empress is seriously ill at Tai Yuan Fu (province of Shan Si) and the free hand of the emperor in affairs of state of late is regarded as confirmatory of these reports.

A response to the German demand has been transmitted to Li Hung Chang. This says that Ying Nien, president of the senate, Yang Li, assistant grand secretary and president of the civil board, and Oso Shu Chiao, president of the board of punishment, will be decapitated, that Prince Chwang, Duke Tai Lan and Prince Yih will be sentenced to life imprisonment and that Prince Tuan will be banished to the imperial military post roads on the Siberian frontier, as a further punishment for siding the Boxers.

THE CONTROL OF THE ROADS.

Berlin, Oct 9.—The Post says an agreement exists between Germany and Russia by which Germany is to control the railroad from Peking to Yangtun and Russia is to control the road from Yangtun to Tongku.

The Post also denies that Germany will send an expedition to Sian Fu.

EXPEDITION WAITING ON THE GERMANS.

Peking, Oct 4, Thursday.—The Pao Ting Fu expedition is waiting for the Germans, who are not ready to start.

It is reported that there are 12,000 Chinese imperial troops at Pao Ting Fu. Gen Chaffee has returned here.

EMPEROR SAYS WILL RETURN TO PEKIN.

Peking, Oct 6.—Prince Ching has received an edict from the emperor, dated Oct 1, in reply to a note sent at the request of the legations, saying he will return to Peking as soon as the negotiations take a favorable turn.

Murdered Missionaries.

New York, Oct 9.—A complete list of protestant missionaries known to have been killed from the beginning of the Boxer movement to Sept 5, has been received by the American Bible society from Rev John R. Hykes, D.D., its agent in Shanghai.

The list contains the names of 178 people, very few of any of whom will escape. Of these 66 are men, 73 women (41 married and 32 single), and 39 children.

In the above total there are the following Americans: Twenty-five men, 24 women (16 married and 8 single) and 20 children; total, 69 Americans.

Total killed about whose death there cannot be any question: Eleven men, 6 married women, 13 single women, 18 children; total, 43.

Of those killed the following were Americans: Three men, 1 married woman, 6 single women, 3 children; total 13.

Of those in Tai Yuan Fu who were unquestionably massacred July 9, 10 men, 9 married women, 4 single women, 7 children; total 30, all British.

There are still some missionaries in the provinces of Kansuh and Kweichow who have not been heard from for some time, but there are good reason to hope that they will get to places of safety.

Among the concessions offered by the operators to the striking miners is the reduction of the price of blasting powder from \$2.75 to \$1.50 per keg—a reduction of nearly fifty per cent. It is by such revelations as this that the public is brought to sympathize with the miners.

Plague in India.

London, Oct 10.—"Bubonic plague," says a dispatch to the Daily Mail from Bombay, "is becoming epidemic in many districts of the Bombay presidency. Alarming increases are reported from Poona and Belgaum, while the coast ports are infected.

The cotton crops have withered in Ahmednagar Bijapur districts in consequence of the drought.

Hunting Trouble in China.

Useless and Unwise Military Operations Against Chinese Cities.

Washington, Oct 15.—Recent happenings in China, and especially in the province of Chihle, have so far set back peace negotiations that it may be a matter of weeks or even months before the peace commissioners will be able to get to work.

Ill-considered military operations in Chihle and elsewhere are said to be responsible for the check which diplomacy has met in reaching a settlement. Through the efforts of the state department, seconded by the more moderate powers, a steady and systematic pressure has been brought to bear upon the Chinese emperor to bring about his return to Peking. The representations from the great southern viceroys to the emperor setting out the impossibility of supplying the court with money and food if it persisted in retreating to Tsinan Fu, in Shensi, was but one of the means which had been resorted to at the instance of this government to secure the return of the court. All efforts were neutralized, however, by the spasmodic and unnecessary activity of the allied military forces. There was no necessity whatever for the Pao Ting Fu expedition, in the judgment of the officials here, and that venture was the straw which determined the imperial court to flee to the western mountains.

Li Hung Chang and the viceroys of the south have pledged themselves to maintain order and guarantee protection for foreigners and property in their respective provinces. This was made a condition precedent by the United States government to the establishment of relations with them looking to the initiation of negotiations for a final settlement. According to all reports that have reached Washington, the viceroys had lived loyally up to their promises, in spite of irritating military expeditions and movements of various kinds set up against their protests; and therefore it is regarded as particularly unfortunate that the allied forces should persist now in the expedition against Pao Ting Fu. It is not known here whether or not the Germans are the moving force in this project, and a contrary conclusion is drawn from the fact that the Walderees is not the directing head. Each nationality appears to be moving at the will of its military commander, and military affairs in China, as viewed in Washington, appear to be in hopeless confusion.

In this state of affairs satisfaction is felt in the fact that the American troops are not in any manner involved in the activities of allied forces, and it is said that the movement looking to their withdrawal will proceed uninterruptedly.

The reply of the United States government to the latest note from France offering suggestions as to the settlement of the troubles in China was completed late today and delivered to M. Thibaut, charge d'affaires of the French embassy. By him it was forwarded to his government. No official statement of the contents of the answer was obtainable. Following its inflexible rule, the state department declined to make public the text of the communication or to make any statement of the nature of its contents, until opportunity had been afforded for its reception by the French foreign office.

It is believed, however, to take a favorable view of the suggestions submitted by the French government in a general way, although it does not commit this government to all of them.

As to the first of the proposed French terms of settlement, the punishment of the principal culprits, this government has already declared itself in amicable terms.

As to the second, the maintenance of the prohibition against the import of arms, this government will not declare itself to the point of making it an absolute prerequisite to further negotiations. As to the third and fourth propositions providing for equitable indemnities to States, societies and individuals, and the formation of a permanent guard for the legations in Peking, a cordial assent will be given. As to the fifth, which requires the dismantlement of the Taku fortifications, this government is not disposed to go quite to the length of making it an indispensable condition as does the French note.

The sixth of the French conditions reads as follows:

"Military occupation of two of three points on the roads from Tien Tsin to Peking, which would be thus always open to the legations wishing to go to the sea or forces proceeding to Peking from the sea."

This paragraph would seem to make it obligatory upon the powers to maintain garrisons at these points, and while the conditions are such as to make their present occupation necessary for the safety of the members of the legations and others desiring to travel between Peking and Tien Tsin, this government is disposed to make the demand as a matter of right, to be exercised by any or all of the powers at will.

Cotton Again is King;

Expert Says It's Scarce.

A. B. Shepperson Returns From a Tour in Europe and Gives Interesting

VIEWSON THE WORLD'S COTTON SITUATION.

The cotton men of South Carolina and the south will be deeply interested in what A. B. Shepperson, the famous cotton statistician has to say in last week's issue of the Manufacturers' Record about the scarcity of cotton.

He has just returned from a trip to Europe where he studied the world's cotton situation. He says:

"On the 18th instant middling cotton sold in New York at 11 cents per pound and 7½ pence in Liverpool, being the highest price here since August, 1890. Quotations are now 1 cent lower here and 7-16 of a penny lower in Liverpool, but this is only a natural reaction after the advance since Sept 1 of 1½ cent in New York and 1½ pence in Liverpool. The upward movement in its pronounced development was started and simply followed in the wake of the greater market. The advance in Liverpool in so brief a time was unprecedented but when all the circumstances are considered it cannot be said to have been unwarranted. The Liverpool market for 'cotton futures' was largely oversold, and while the actual stock of cotton of grades that could be delivered upon 'future contracts' was ridiculously small, the light stocks in this country, the lateness of the new crop and the interruption of shipments by the Galveston storm prevented any relief from America. 'Futures' for the near months advanced at first and most sharply. Then there came a good demand from spinners for actual cotton, and this demand increased when it was fully realized how very little cotton there was in Liverpool such as spinners required.

"The greatest part of the unsold cotton was of grades lower than spinners wished to use, and of very fancy grades, of which the spinners buy only small quantities at a time. English spinners held very small stocks of cotton, and when they tried to buy they found the warehouses of the markets as bare of desirable cotton as the storehouses of the mills. The supply being extremely limited and the demand large from speculators and spinners, the advance which occurred was inevitable.

"On Sept 13 the stock of American cotton in Liverpool was only 110,000 bales. On the 20th this insignificant stock was reduced to 105,000, against 700,000 bales at corresponding date last year. Of the 105,000 bales of American cotton probably not over 40,000 bales of the grades desired by spinners could have been secured and, as the British mills now consume about 65,000 bales of cotton per week, there was less than a week's supply of American cotton in Liverpool available for them. It is not strange that some of the Lancashire mills purpose to suspend work wholly or partially until cotton is more plentiful. Inasmuch as they can't spin yarns out of 'futures' or crop estimates (even if for 12,000,000 bales), there was nothing else to be done. I fully realized this situation when in Liverpool and Manchester several weeks ago. While the English mills with out cotton will have to suspend work until they can get it, those having a fair supply will most probably continue at work in spite of all talk to the contrary, as idle mills can't make money. The 'pinch' for cotton is more acutely felt in England than elsewhere, as I wrote last December it would be. While the visible supply there is now only one seventh of what it was a year ago, the visible supply of American cotton throughout all Europe and America is about one-third of the quantity at this time last year, being in round figures 700,000, against 2,200,000 bales.

"After several years of depression, caused by overproduction of cotton, the consumption of the world has in the season just ended not only overtaken the production, but so trench upon the reserves that the visible supply of all kinds is now equal to only about four weeks' consumption of the mills of Europe and America. Cotton is again king. It heads the list of our exports, and the wealth which it has brought and will continue to bring to the south will also increase the prosperity of every section of the country.

"In a recently issued circular Mr. Henry M. Neill of New Orleans, estimated that the mills of the world had consumed 11,226,000 bales of American cotton last season. Perhaps I may not be able to make it that much when I finish investigating the mat-

ter, but, as the tendency of this gentleman's mind is to estimate as conservatively on the consumption of cotton as he estimates liberally on its production, it would probably be safe to assume last season's consumption of American cotton as 11,000,000 to 11,200,000 bales. It would doubtless have been more had there been a larger supply. During the season there has been an addition of about 1,000,000 spindles to the European and American mills. Mr. Neill thinks the consumption of American cotton during the new season will be only 10,000,000 bales, while he estimates that the American crop now coming in, will not exceed 9,750,000 bales or not enough for the world's requirements by at least 250,000 bales. The consumption of 10,000,000 bales was reached when the spindles were several millions less than now.

"It is undoubtedly true, that the troubles in China, if prolonged, will deprive the world of her markets, which have recently taken the equivalent of about one million bales of cotton per annum. It is also true that the end of the war in South Africa (now practically over) will soon open up that territory to commerce, and the assurance now of fair crops of cereals and cotton in India will cause a greatly improved demand for cotton manufactures from that country. Should the Chinese difficulties be satisfactorily adjusted, it is probable that trade with that country would be largely increased. The continent exports no cotton goods to China and is unaffected by the war there.

"The season may really prove to be a very active one for cotton manufacturers, especially when it is remembered that, as a rule, great prosperity has prevailed the past year throughout Europe and the United States, and that the same conditions exist now. Wages are fairly good, and but few people are unemployed. Home trade is therefore good."

ter, but, as the tendency of this gentleman's mind is to estimate as conservatively on the consumption of cotton as he estimates liberally on its production, it would probably be safe to assume last season's consumption of American cotton as 11,000,000 to 11,200,000 bales. It would doubtless have been more had there been a larger supply. During the season there has been an addition of about 1,000,000 spindles to the European and American mills. Mr. Neill thinks the consumption of American cotton during the new season will be only 10,000,000 bales, while he estimates that the American crop now coming in, will not exceed 9,750,000 bales or not enough for the world's requirements by at least 250,000 bales. The consumption of 10,000,000 bales was reached when the spindles were several millions less than now.

"It is undoubtedly true, that the troubles in China, if prolonged, will deprive the world of her markets, which have recently taken the equivalent of about one million bales of cotton per annum. It is also true that the end of the war in South Africa (now practically over) will soon open up that territory to commerce, and the assurance now of fair crops of cereals and cotton in India will cause a greatly improved demand for cotton manufactures from that country. Should the Chinese difficulties be satisfactorily adjusted, it is probable that trade with that country would be largely increased. The continent exports no cotton goods to China and is unaffected by the war there.

"The season may really prove to be a very active one for cotton manufacturers, especially when it is remembered that, as a rule, great prosperity has prevailed the past year throughout Europe and the United States, and that the same conditions exist now. Wages are fairly good, and but few people are unemployed. Home trade is therefore good."

Stole Fifty Thousand.

New York, Oct 9.—P. H. Gilboly, counsel for the Elizabethport, N. J., banking company, announced today that Wm. Schriber, a missing clerk of the bank, was a defaulter to the amount of \$50,000, and that the bank directors had made good the amount of the shortage. Among the directors is United States Senator John Keace.

Schriber, who had been in the employ of the banking company since its incorporation about 10 years ago, started from Elizabeth on August 2, and was supposed to be on his vacation. While he was away his accounts were examined and the shortage was discovered.

Will Cotton Seed Rise.

Jackson, Miss, Oct 11.—Numerous conferences are being held by the cotton oil manufacturers of Mississippi with a view to controlling prices to be paid for seed. The mills are now paying \$16 per ton and as the crop is 50 per cent short, it is the general belief that the price will advance to at least \$18 within the next few weeks.

The manufacturers say, however, they cannot afford to pay more than the present price and that they are losing money on seed products at the prevailing figure. Many of the mills are holding their oil in the expectation of an advance. It is thought two thirds of the mills will be closed down by Christmas on account of the seed shortage.

OVER A GOLD MINE.

Yorkville, Oct 10.—A negro man was in town yesterday showing some old English gold coins that he had found on the premises of Mr. R. L. Wallace in the King's creek section, nine miles west of this place. The negro had built a hog pen on his lot, and the hog in "rooting around" unearthed an old iron pot, and under it was a lot of gold coins which had been buried there. It is not known how much the man got, but it is supposed he made a pretty good find. Mr. Wallace was here with him, but had the man "coached" in regard to keeping his mouth shut. The coins were all gold and of English make. They ranged in size from a five dollar piece to a \$20. Undoubtedly this money was buried during the Revolutionary war, as the dates on them were of a number of years previous to that war. It is thought that perhaps Maj. Ferguson buried them whilst on his way to King's mountain, as this point is on a line with his route to that battle ground.

Galveston is confronted by a serious problem. The city is virtually bankrupt. There is no money on hand to maintain the municipal government, and something must be done if the city is to be saved, and done quickly. The calling of a special session of the legislature to appropriate \$100,000 to carry on the city government is advocated.